

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

EXECUTIVE

DATE:

REPORT NO : /00 FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT

FOR INFORMATION /ACTION

NAME OF WARD ALL

REPORT TITLE : School Travel Plans

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 This report provides an update for members on the recent developments at national, regional and borough level in School Travel Plans including details of those schools accessing additional capital funding through the DFES and those schools accessing special parking permits for teaching staff.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That members approve the works of officers to date and the continuation of the development of School Travel Plans within the borough's schools.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 An allocation of £55k from the Transport for London (TfL) Capital Allocation is available for the implementation of School Travel Plan initiatives in the Borough for 2004-2005. Of this £25k is for revenue costs including production of guidance, marketing, theatre in education and the development of a resource library for schools. The remaining £30k is for small capital grants to schools to assist with implementation.

3.2 Schools which develop and implement School Travel Plans are eligible for additional capital funding from the DFES. The funding amounts to:

- Primary Schools £3750 +£5 per pupil;
- Secondary and Special £5000 + £5 per pupil)

3.3 The DFES funding is available for two years with submission deadlines in March 2004 and March 2005. The March 2004 deadline saw a total of twelve schools submitting suitable plans

3.4 TFL guidance on the BSP for 2005-2006 states that no funding will be provided for Safer Routes to School schemes which do not have a School Travel Plan in place or have been the outcome of a School Travel Plan

4.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 To date work on School Travel Plans has been successfully carried out within the existing staff resources of Transportation.
- 4.2 Additional funding has been awarded to all boroughs by the Department for Transport based on the number of schools in each borough. In Brent this sum amounts to £25,000 and will be used to expand upon or upgrade existing staff resources.

5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 School Travel Plans promote sustainable travel over the use of the private car. They encourage walking and cycling and use of public transport by school children and their guardians. School Travel Plans can have a positive effect on safety for all road users and supports the transport planning policies of the government, the Mayor of London and the borough.
- 5.2 Residents in the vicinity of the schools involved will benefit from an enhanced quality of life by virtue of a reduction in car journeys at peak school times.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no legal implications

7.0 DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Officers are aware of the links highlighted in various national and local studies concerning road safety and ethnicity. In co-operation with the Accident Prevention Unit, School Travel Plan officers will investigate the possible barriers to sustainable school travel which may be experienced by members of ethnic communities. This will ensure that support is available to schools where this is identified as an issue through the School Travel Plan process.

8.0 DETAIL

- 8.1 In autumn 2003 the DFES announced a programme of capital bids for schools undertaking to develop and implement a STP. Under the scheme, schools developing a School Travel Plan before March would be eligible for additional capital funding as outlining in paragraph 3.2 above with which to implement measures identified within their plan. Schools were informed of this grant and invited to contact the Travel Plan Manager for further information and assistance should they wish to access this funding
- 8.2 A total of twelve schools met the DfES March 2004 deadline for submission of approved School Travel Plans:

- Donnington Primary School
- Gladstone Primary School
- Kingsbury Green Primary School
- Manor Special School

- Preston Park Primary School
- Princess Frederica Primary School
- Roe Green Infant School
- Roe Green Junior School
- St Josephs Junior School
- St Margaret Clitherow Primary School
- Sudbury Primary School
- Wykeham Primary School

Further details of the measures in the individual plans can be obtained from The Travel Plan Manager

8.3 In addition, a further five schools are currently working on School Travel Plans. These plans once approved will be eligible for the second round of DFES capital funding in March 2005. The schools involved to date are:

- Braintcroft Primary School
- Byron Court Primary
- Eelsey Primary School
- Mora Primary
- St Mary Magdalens RC Primary

8.4 Officers will continue to encourage and work with remaining schools with a view to meeting the Government target that all schools will have a School Travel Plan in place by 2006

Special Parking Permits for teaching staff

8.4 The introduction of the provision of Special Parking Permits for teachers working at schools located within Controlled Parking Zones within the London Borough of Brent was approved by the Highways Committee on 27th January 2003. The allocation of such permits is controlled under the criteria and guidelines approved by the committee on 15th April 2003.

8.5 Schools within CPZs have been approached by direct mail and through the Education department newsletter, to inform them of the availability of Special Parking Permits through the School Travel Plan process.

8.6 To date three schools have accessed these permits;

- **Princess Frederica Primary School.**
The school is a large three-form entry school with no on site parking. It is located in Controlled Parking Zone KR The maximum allocation of ten permits were issued to teaching staff at the school in January 2004
- **Manor Special School**
This is the only Special school to date to engage in the School Travel Plan process and will shortly be receiving permits.

- **Mora Primary School.**

An initial meeting has taken place with the Headteacher where initial problems were identified and plans put in place for surveying of the school community. It is anticipated that the school will be awarded permits in the summer term.

8.7 Special parking permits are charged at a rate of £75 per permit

9.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Details of Documents:

- 2004/5 BSP Submission
- Letter and attached files regarding BSP allocation from Ben Plowden dated November 2003
- Letter from DFT and DFES dated February 2004

Any person wishing to inspect the above papers should contact Emma Sheridan, Transportation, 2nd Floor Brent House, 349 High Road, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 6BZ, Telephone: 0208 937 5181

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